

IDEA-0149
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30 January 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT : Proposed Inclusion of IDEALIST Aircraft in Schedule of
Agency Owned and Controlled Aircraft

1. This memorandum contains a recommendation for the Deputy Director (Plans), which is set forth in paragraph 5 herein.

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2. [REDACTED] called me today to ask if in the light of the May first incident DPD would wish to review its previous policy of not including U-2 aircraft in the annual schedule of Agency owned and controlled aircraft. In past years we have avoided doing this.

25X1A

3. [REDACTED] said that while these figures would be known to clerical and administrative personnel in the Budget Division who prepare the annual inventory, the document would not be made available to anyone except DCI, DECI, DD/P, DD/S, the Agency Comptroller, and himself. However, I inferred from what [REDACTED] said that if this information were carried as far as the printed schedule in the manner he proposed, it just might find its way into one or more of the Committee hearings in connection with the Agency budget.

25X1A

25X1A

4. I told [REDACTED] that I could not authorize the release to him of these strength figures without checking first with you, since in some ways the fact that Project IDEALIST has gone underground and is continuing is more confidential and certainly more explosive from a political point of view than prior to the first of May.

25X1A

5. RECOMMENDATION: If you agree with the general line of my reasoning, I will reply to [REDACTED] when you return this week that we are

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perfectly happy to have these strength figures known to any of the personnel cited in paragraph 3, but that we do not wish to have them included in any Agency-wide schedule of aircraft lest they inadvertently get outside the family.

SIGNED
JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Acting Chief, DPD-DD/P

Recommendation Paragraph 5 APPROVED:

1 FEB 1961

RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Deputy Director
(Plans)

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DPD-DD/P:JACunningham, Jr./mg